

REMARKS

The Applicant amends independent claim 1 to better define the scope of the invention. Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the opening formed in the compact is defined by the face-to-face interface of a punch and an other member of the die set.

Oaku and the other references of record do not disclose, either alone or in combination, a method for forming a compact having an opening defined by a face-to-face interface of two members of a die set.

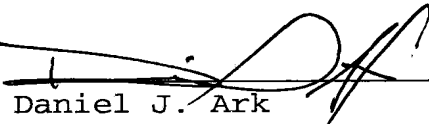
The Applicant further draws the attention of the Office to the Information Disclosure Statements of record. In particular, in the last Office action, the Office states that the IDS filed on May 14, 2009 did not include legible copies of the references (when applicable). However, an IDS was not filed on May 14, 2009. An IDS was filed on March 25, 2009 which includes legible copies of the cited documents in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2) [albeit in a single PDF file submitted with the IDS]. If it has not been already, this properly filed IDS should be considered by the Office.

The Applicant respectfully requests entry of this amendment by the Examiner. No fees are believed to be due for entry of this amendment. However, in the event that fees are due, including fees for an extension of time or for excess claims, please charge them to Deposit Account 17-0055.

Respectfully submitted,

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